

REMARKS

The foregoing amendment is responsive to the Office Action mailed on 02/24/04. Claim 14 has been provisionally canceled.

Claims 14-28, and 45-53 are pending in this application. Claims 1-13 and claims 29-43 have been previously cancelled without prejudice in response to a restriction requirement. The Examiner has deemed claims 15-28 and 45-53 allowable. By the foregoing amendment canceling claim 14, the remaining pending claims 15-28 and 45-53 are now believed to be in condition for allowance and are presented for examination.

Discussion of the Office Action

In the Office Action of 02/24/04, the Examiner rejected claim 14 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and allowed claims 15-28 and 45-53.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

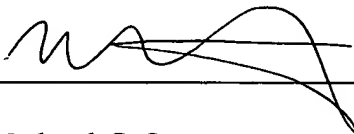
The Examiner states that claims 15-28 and 45-53 are allowed.

CONCLUSION

The undersigned respectfully submits that, in view of Applicants' provisional cancellation of claim 14, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance. It is respectfully requested that claims 15-28 and 45-53 be allowed and that this case be passed to issue. In the event that the Examiner finds any remaining impediment to the prompt allowance of these claims that can be clarified with a telephone conference, he is respectfully requested to initiate the same with the undersigned at (925) 422-3682.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 3/17/04

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Staggs', written over a horizontal line.

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